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In This Issue:

◎ US Neo-Colonialism in South Viet Nam:
THE ECONOMIC WEAPON

Page 2

◎ Tiger Grass Is Replaced by Hop

Page 3

1st Founding Anniversary of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government

THOSE WHO WILL HAVE THE LAST WORD

A event of paramount importance a year ago marked the heroic struggle of the South Vietnamese people, from the founding of the Republic of South Viet Nam and the formation of its Provisional Revolutionary Government.

Where did this government come from and how was it formed?

It is necessary to trace back to the year 1954 when the South Vietnamese people, in face of American designs and Saigon puppet's maneuver, rose up immediately to demand implementation of the Geneva Agreement, namely respect of the fundamental national rights of the Vietnamese. Tempers of a protracted resistance against French colonialism, the South Vietnamese people soon put up a resistance against the US imperialists and the US-instigated fascist regime in Saigon. During these fifteen years, all social classes, political organizations, religious sects and ethnic groups, threatened in their daily life by sanguinary US bombing, fought one another for their vital rights and for national independence, peace and national dignity.

Washington's neo-colonialism and the Saigon fascist regime gradually toughed off a most powerful popular opposition resulting in the overthrow of Diem and the fall of the NFL. In face of US armed intervention the South Vietnamese have since 1961 conducted all-sided political and armed struggle to retake their national independence. This victorious fight has been waged in the countryside as well as in cities, in the plains as well as in the mountainous regions. In the urban centers the struggle of the intelligentsia in particular, which included many prominent members of the former resistance, set up in 1968 their genuine organization to fight US aggression: the All-Vietnamese, Democratic and Peace Forces. In 1969 the NFL and the ANPDF convened a national congress, which decided the formation of the Provisional Revolutionary Government.

Thus, it is on the basis of a large mastering of popular forces and as a result of a long and successful struggle that the PRG came into being. And all the forces which contributed to the success of that arduous struggle against a powerful and ferocious enemy — US imperialism — have

for a year now given proof of their vitality and determination. Nixon's new intensification has come to grief: GIs and puppet troops have been badly mauled by the people's armed forces. Cities, American bases always remain under the threat of PLAF large-scale attacks.

US saturation bombings and mass spraying of toxic chemicals have not prevented the PRG from firmly organizing its administration at all levels and its production. Crop lands have expanded little by little and the method of intensive cultivation has been applied. Dispensaries and schools have mushroomed in all villages. An exhibition held by the Ministry of Culture with 2000 exhibits, paintings and sculptures. Many films have been produced by liberation studios.

The representativeness of the PRG was rapidly recognized in the international arena. It is rather unusual that a revolutionary government, in the course of its fight, within a few weeks after its foundation, won recognition of about twenty countries. At present twenty-five countries entertain diplomatic relations with the PRG and twenty-two others are承认其在各方面的地位。二十多个国家与之建立了外交关系，而其他国家则在某些方面给予了承认。

As a national and popular government, the PRG heir to a long national tradition of struggle for independence, it continues a century of struggle of the Vietnamese people against French colonialism. At the time when the national liberation movement spreads in Africa and Latin America, the PRG takes a place in the great community of governments and organizations which resolutely fight imperialism. The whole progressive mankind grant their support and aid.

Shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal peoples of Cambodia and Laos engaged in a common effort to defend freedom, peace and against the common enemy, the PRG represents the South Vietnamese people to wage the present struggle and to build in common a future of peace and prosperity.

In vain R. Nixon wriggles, in vain the Pentagon hurls its crack troops into the battlefields of the South Vietnamese. The PRG who will carry the day. It is the Indo-chinese peoples who will win.

SAMDECH NORODOM SIHANOUK, HEAD OF STATE OF CAMBODIA, CONTINUES HIS VISIT IN THE DRVN



Samdech Norodom Sihanouk receives the South Viet Nam Heroes and Valiant Fighters' Delegation

THE third day (May 27) of the DRVN visit of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Head of State of Cambodia, President of the National United Front of Kampuchea (FUNK), was marked by a Buddhist ceremony at Quan Su Pagoda in Hanoi. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, Princess Monique Sihanouk, Cambodian Premier Pem Nouth and his wife, and other distinguished Khmer guests, accompanied by Premier Pham Van Dong and other Vietnamese persons, were present. The pagoda was lavishly decorated with Vietnamese and Cambodian flags and Buddhist banners. On a stand in front of the altar were seven superior bouzes in yellow silk robes which were adorned with golden buttons. Five hundred Buddhist believers crowded the yard of the pagoda.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and other Cambodian guests meditated for a long time before the altar while the Buddhist bouzes and followers were praying for the souls of the Buddhists and all the Cambodians. Vietnamese fighters involved in the struggle against US aggression for independence and peace. Prayers were also said for the happiness of Her Majesty the Queen Kossamak Nearireath, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk.

nook and the other Cambodian distinguished guests.

Deeply moved, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk thanked the Buddhist bouzes and followers for the new token of sympathy of the Vietnamese people toward the Cambodian people now engaged in a fight against the US aggressors and their vultures.

On the same day, May 27, a delegation of PLAF heroes and valiant fighters now visiting the North came to pay their respects to Samdech Norodom Sihanouk and other Cambodian guests.

Prof. Nguyen Van Biu, RSVN Ambassador to Cambodia and delegation leader, was invited to go to meet our Viet Nam and the "new" Cambodian people, the close comrades-in-arms of the Vietnamese people." He said he clated the South Vietnamese fighters were on learning of the heroic acts of the Cambodian people who, responding to the call of their Head of State, and closing their ranks within the FUNK, have inflicted humiliating setbacks on the US aggressors. Saigon puppet troops and Lon Nol - Sihan Matak clique.

(Continued page 5)

SOUTH VIET NAM

PLAF HIT HARD AT ENEMY DEFENCE SYSTEM AND "PACIFICATION" PROGRAM

Page 8

How US neo-colonial policy is applied in South Viet Nam? Its economic, political and cultural aspects are studied in a series of articles to be published starting from this issue.

SHORTLY after the 1954 armistice, the US broke into the "French enclaves" one by one, and buckled down to tightening its control over the South.

With the transfer to the Diem administration of the Stock Exchange, Saigon harbour, the Bank of Issue of the Indochinese Associated States (formerly the Bank of Indo-China), foreign trade monopoly, direct utilization of US aid, and the binding of South Viet Nam to the dollar-area, the Americans secured control of the main economic apparatuses in South Viet Nam.

U.S. Neo-Colonialism in South Viet Nam: THE ECONOMIC WEAPON

by NGUYEN XUAN LAI

"TRUE BOSSSES" OF SOUTH VIET NAM

US "advisors" swarmed into Saigon with the mission of "building the framework of the new regime." Grouped in three main organs they not only managed and supervised but also managed, operated and decided, while the "prime minister," a CIA placeman, was only executed. The US Operations Mission (USOM), name of the International Co-operation Agency (ICA) in South Viet Nam, and later on, under the Kennedy Administration, the Agency for International Development (AID) looked after all economic, financial, cultural and social problems. Under Lyndon Johnson, USOM played the role of a Ministry of National Economy, Finances and Cultural and Social Affairs. Above all these super-ministries which supervised all the activities of their South Vietnamese counterparts in the US embassy. It was still in the epoch which, with all its political, military, economic, financial, cultural and social departments, practically ran the show in the country, USOM managed and supervised all the activities of the South Viet Nam, except "direct" aid in armament and military equipment distributed by MAAG. With 40 American agents (against 200 in 1962) and 800 Vietnamese agents in 1963 (1,100 Americans in 1965) and a thousand other Americans, Formosans, Filipinos or Japanese experts recruited for concrete short-term jobs, it spread its tentacles to all the branches of activities in the country, especially:

Finances

U.S. AID: A POWERFUL, EFFICIENT AND FORMIDABLE WEAPON

lized aid."

It was first an aid in goods consisting for the overwhelming part of staple consumer goods amounting to \$1,000 million (June 30) to 2,192.5 million dollars. Another aid program to the value of 335.5 million dollars for the same period and coming from the implementation of Public Law (PL) 480. This came about through the mutual agreement between the two countries within the framework of the "1951 Law on Mutual Security," better known as the law on "Mutual Defense Assistance Program" (MDAP). The US Diem government had fixed conditions and amount of an "additional financial aid."

Apart from direct military aid in armament and military equipment, which reached 1,301.18 million dollars from 1955 to 1964, the so-called "economic" aid took various forms, chiefly that of "commercial"

such as what corn, powdered milk flour, vegetable oil, coming also from US agricultural surpluses. These "donations" in kind of 222.6 million dollars from 1955 to 1967, "the greatest gift ever given," as A.M. Schlesinger Jr. has put it—made it possible for the Americans to "kill two birds with one stone": on the one hand, to "conquer the mind" and other organs of Saigon's "pioneers," victims of their aggression and supply to the Saigon government the funds necessary to feed its war budget, for effectively part of these "gifts" was doled out free of charge but paid for by the US taxpayers according to Schlesinger, "the Food for Peace" program greatly eased the problems created by American agricultural productivity, reduced surplus storage charges, increased farm income and purchasing power, and even under the stimulation that the food be transported in America—ships helped subsidize the maritime industry" (3).

A fourth aid program named "economic and technical assistance"—the most important owing to its strategic significance of 1,155.4 million dollars for the same period (1955-67), was used first USOM plan and programs of definitely political and military character, namely: the transfer of Northern "refugees," creation of agricultural "refugees," "re-education centers" and "prisoner training" carrying out of agrarian reform," building of a network of strategic roads, airstrips and naval bases, extension of a telecommunication network, organization

THE "COUNTERPART FUND," A BIG NOOSE

THE "Counterpart Fund" is a source of the overwhelming part of staple consumer goods amounting to \$1,000 million (June 30) to 2,192.5 million dollars. Another aid program to the value of 335.5 million dollars for the same period and coming from the implementation of Public Law (PL) 480. This came about through the mutual agreement between the two countries within the framework of the "1951 Law on Mutual Security," better known as the law on "Mutual Defense Assistance Program" (MDAP). The US Diem government had fixed conditions and amount of an "additional financial aid."

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(1) According to this law, all country which does not implement the stipulations of bilateral treaties cannot receive any aid under whatever form, and should this aid not result in the strengthening of US security, it would not be given. And the Diem government pledged itself to carry out stipulation 1 of Art. C of the agreement signed in 1951 by Ha Noi and Hanoi. Namely, to contribute to the best of its abilities in man-power resources and materials to maintain its forces for its own defense and that of the free world."

(2) A.M. Schlesinger Jr., *A Thousand Days* — John F. Kennedy in the White House, A Mayflower Dell Paperback, London 1967, p. 481.

of American goods and agricultural surpluses—bringing about baneful political, social and economic consequences—to the value of 2,192.5 million dollars. Blood of South Viet Nam is daily for the upkeep of South Vietnamese armed forces. Each year this aid is fixed by the US government but it is only released month by month for the utilization of money allotted to the "counterpart fund" after the expenditure had got USOM.

One must not forget another aid, less important, It is the distribution of provisions

of militia and rural administration, survey of natural and human resources in the country for later exploitation with war "opening of a national school of administration; execution of "revolutionary development" and "rural construction" programs.

Finally the "loans" granted to the Diem administration: \$5 million dollars from the Export-Import Bank to finance the initial contributions of the US to the International Monetary Fund and the International Development and Rehabilitation Bank and the importation of capital goods and chiefly of services for the amount of 3.3 million dollars, also from the Export-Import Bank deducted from the "Asian Economic Development Fund" earmarked for the extension of the military telecommunication network, \$9.8 million dollars; from the "Development Loan Fund" (DLF) reserved for the railway network, the aqueduct network in Saigon and the building and equipment of a power station; \$7.5 million dollars paid in pictures granted by private industries deducted from the fund derived from the sale of American surplus agricultural produce. Though granted under different labels, these loans always belonged to the assistance fund managed by USOM and it has been suspended since 1963.

Thus from January 1955 to June 30, 1967, the US granted to the Saigon government an aid aggregating at least six billion dollars (figures given by AP correspondent Lewis Conlick on March 30, 1966, which is still below reality).

Is it to say that this profitied South Viet Nam economy? Michael Klare said in *The Nation*, No. 9, in March 1970: "Throughout the entire world, the US has manipulated the social and economic relationships of native population as to create subgroups which place loyalty to Washington over that to their fellow-countrymen. US foreign aid programs import subsidies and manipulate the economy to create in each country a privileged stratum dependent upon continued American beneficence for its prosperity. When such a group acquires control of the national government, the US can usually exercise the power. Since the ruling group remains dependent on US aid even when in control of the governmental apparatus (in order to finance development projects and meet military payroll), Washington can easily manipulate a client regime to provide troops for US-led counter-insurgency campaign. This process of subversion is easily discerned in South Viet Nam but the same mechanism prevail elsewhere in Asia, particularly in Thailand, South Viet Nam and Laos."

(Continued page 7)

VIET NAM COURIER

At the Moc Chau State Farm

Tiger Grass Is Replaced by Hop

IT was in January 1940. Our convoy of political deportees going from Hanoi central jail to Son La penitentiary was passing here. An immense carpet of tiger grass covered the whole plateau. Twenty-two years later here I am again in Moc Chau. Beautiful tea plantations lie on the hills and herds of Turkistan tigers were prowling. Roofs of red tiles dot the landscape. One meets girls with rosy cheeks like Meo "peaches."

With these few lines written down in the visitors book of the Moc Chau state farm, historian Tran Huu Lien brings out all the changes which have taken place on this plateau nearly 20km northwest of Hanoi, on the Laos border. I came there in 1965 despite four years of US bombing. Moc Chau has kept on thriving.

But all these figures are only deceiving. Here the tropical climate holds sway with all its rigors: diurnal and seasonal. Monsoon which sweep away everything, flood the valleys, erode the soil, then protracted droughts from October to April, and in winter often very cold nights with heavy snows, down to 0 degrees or sometimes -10 degrees, enable us to acclimate plants to the temperate zone.

For this start, farm manager Tai Anh told me,

conditions prevailing in the country. North Viet Nam has indeed very little arable land. The plains are mostly cultivated, and the highlands cover great areas but these are either completely bare and latitic hills or mountains with steep slopes and thick vegetation.

Nobody among the management or the personnel was familiar with the techniques to put into application. To grow rice in flooded fields of dry food crops, sweet potato, maize, to raise a draught buffalo or a few pigs were an easy matter. But

to reclaim the jungle, grow pastures to breed Dutch milch-cows or Turkistan sheep, acclimate trees to temperate zones, vine and other fruit-trees were so many techniques unknown to them.

For this is our main concern. Pastures, re-afforestation, crop, all this aims at controlling erosion. The most important work is the building of circular terraces on the hill slopes with dykes to prevent streaming. On these embankments, gutters are fixed, fit with straw plugs. Thus water can flow where arable land is retained."

A state enterprise," I told the manager, "you have certainly at your disposal equipment superior than the co-operatives?"

That's true, but they are much inferior as compared with their co-operatives because Viet Nam is still too little industrialized. We have got just a few scores of tractors, some groups of Diesel motors. We also have several technicians but they are too young. We all are greenhorn here. Moreover, in agriculture there is not only technique.

"What is more?"

"Plants and beasts which need care. One must tend them with affection, like children, the way some of our milkmaids cover the newborn calves with their own padded jackets. What has made success is not only the application of appropriate techniques but also the common desire to fulfil the task assigned to us by the state."

"At last, technicians and workers hit upon adequate means. They brought in cattle species of mitch-cows, while on vast meadows a host of sheep graze, and further ebony zebus browse in the bushes. The first sunray results obtained of pear trees, apple-trees, other trees of the temperate zone and even vine stocks. A good surprise, the farm offers to the visitor its home-made wine... in an out-of-the-way place, in a country where vine had never been grown!"

A centre for technical experiment and at the same time a centre for the production of wine is a difficult job, especially in unfavourable climatic and technical conditions and terrain. But those are the

arable land is carried away in over rainstorms. The name "Moc Chau plateau" itself is not a proper one for it has no flat ground but gradients from 5 to 30 degrees.

In 1958, a detachment of the People's Army was sent to Moc Chau to establish a state farm that is a "model" state enterprise which had to accumulate funds for enlarged reproduction and become a technical centre setting an example to agricultural co-operatives." (Instruction of State Farms).

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* An ethnic group which lives in the high mountains.

(Continued page 7)

VIET NAM COURIER

A World Lawyers' Conference on Viet Nam, convened in July 1968 in Grenoble (France) and attended by 150 delegates from 34 countries, condemned US armed aggression in Viet Nam as well as US-puppet war crimes - in the strict sense of the word, genocidal crimes and crimes against mankind. Its fourth commission studied the legal grounds of the refusal to take part in a war of aggression, and made to the conference a recommendation which was unanimously adopted: it expressed "the firm opinion that a fundamental principle of international law assigns to individuals in all countries the duty to refuse participation in a war of aggression; those who help individuals in their objection to such a war should then be considered to be guiltless of all infractions."

From Grenoble to Toronto

World Lawyers Against U.S. War of Aggression and Neo-Fascism

DO XUAN SANG
DRVN Lawyers' Association

tion."

Since then, events have taken a new turn. Richard Nixon who has replaced Johnson in the White House, has been stepping up the war of aggression notwithstanding the spectacular withdrawal of some American contingents from South Viet Nam. He has committed GIs and Saigon puppet troops to a naked aggression against Cambodia and its surreptitious infiltration into Laos.

In the US, he has been pursuing a true policy of terror and repression against the ever-growing number of opponents to the US war of aggression. He has been making use of the reactionary judicial arsenal (law against desertion and insubordination and iniquitous trials of the type of the conspiracy law suit in Chicago) as well as torture and light machine-guns. However Amendment No 1 to the American Constitution recognizes the American citizens' right to assemble without arms, to demand correction of political mistakes by the administration by way of petition. A neo-fascism is in the making.

Large sections of progressive American citizens and lawyers have been militating against Nixon's war of aggression and neo-fascism and have obtained the acquittal of the well-known pediatrician Dr Benjamin Spock, and the release of the Chicago Seven who were

against Justice Julius Hoffman's sentence.

On May 20, 1970, 1,200 lawyers sent by the bars of New York and other cities in the Northeast of the US, staged a "march" in a chartered train on Washington to demonstrate in front of the Congress against the extension of the war to Cambodia. Significantly enough, among the demonstrators were Ramsey Clark, US ex-attorney general, and Cyrus Vance, ex-deputy-head of the US delegation to the Paris Conference on Viet Nam. It is also the powerful impact of the anti-war movement which brought about the passage by the Senate of Massachusetts State of a law legalizing its young citizens' right to refuse service in all war not declared by the US Congress.

Meanwhile an international

people are more and more conscious of the numerous consequences likely to arise from Nixon's criminal adventure in Indochina if he is given a free hand. The other world peoples who have suffered at the hands of Hitlerite fascism know how it is generated and where it will go. A country which arrogates itself the role of an international gendarme and plays it against all and sundry, necessarily goes fascist. In fact, the US presidential regime resorts to fascist measures with the intensification of the war of aggression in Viet Nam and Indochina. There are no more democratic liberties to speak of when the peace demonstrators are shot at.

Nixon's neo-fascist was born and is growing differently from Hitler's old fascism. The correlation of forces in the world has irre-

THAILAND DRAGGED INTO U.S. CAMBODIA ADVENTURE

THE Lon Nol - Sirik Matak gang of traitors has sounded desperate SOSs. Unfortunately their big "bosses," the American imperialists, cannot go on with their vicious operation in the States. Furthermore the right to depose Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. They have tried to obtain the right to withdraw from Cambodian territory as announced in the plight of the South Vietnamese people. This is not better either: the repeated attacks of the patriotic forces have already compelled them to bring home 16,000 men.

Someone else must come to the help of Lon Nol. The US Ambassador to Thailand has found the man: Thampon Kittikachorn, Thailand's Prime Minister. An announcement was quickly prepared in Bangkok which said that "The US and Mr. Lon Nol would be sent to Cambodia with equipment supplied by Nixon. To placate public opinion, Thampon Kittikachorn hurriedly added that the men he had thrown into that venture were not of Cambodian origin but the country, and of Thai troops in the North and East. Applying Nixon's "doctrine," the US will supply these "Asians" with air cover and guns and will try to wipe out the Cambodian other Asians regarded as dangerous by Washington.

The White House's intention is quite transparent: to bring Cambodia under the military occupation of Thieu Ky in the West and the military occupation of the country, and of Thai troops in the North and East. Applying Nixon's "doctrine," the US will supply these "Asians" with air cover and guns and will try to wipe out the Cambodian other Asians regarded as dangerous by Washington.

It is an open secret that Thailand - Phnom Penh's Thailand has always been a plain US agent. Bangkok is the HQ of the SEATO military aggressive bloc. Thai mercenaries are fighting in South Viet Nam in the sake of Washington. From military bases set up in Thailand US warplanes, including B-52s, take off daily on devastating and murderous raids in Viet Nam and Laos. Recently, they have been made of the presence of six Thai battalions pitted against the Lao patriotic forces.

Continuing the unsavoury role they have given to their country, the Bangkok rulers

versibly tilted in favour of the socialist, democratic and peace forces and the national liberation movement. Neo-fascism must camouflage its activities at home just like neo-colonialists does abroad. Both of them are the products not of a position of strength but of a position of weakness of waning imperialism.

Juridically speaking, they have been condemned not only by history but by positive international law documents.

Basing themselves on those materials published in post-war days (statute and judgment of the Nuremberg Tribunal, resolutions of the 1960 and 1965 UN General Assemblies), the lawyers can work effectively for, and make an effective contribution to, the peoples' struggle against the common struggle.

The recent International Conference in support of the Lao People's Struggle against US imperialist aggression in Indochina has passed a resolution in full support to the just struggle of the Cambodian people.

The resolution denounced the March 18 US-engineered coup d'état against Samdech Heng Samrin, Norodom Sihanouk and the invasion of Cambodia by nearly 100,000 GIs and Saigonese soldiers.

It warmly welcomed the formation of the FUNK and the Royal Government of National Union of Cambodia and honored the great achievements of the Cambodian people in their effort to defeat American imperialism and overthrow the Lon Nol - Sirik Matak clique. It build up an independent, peaceful, non-invasive, democratic and prosperous Cambodia.

The Conference addressed a pressing appeal to all the governments and peoples that stand for peace and justice, including them: "To take firm, prompt and effective action in force the Nixon administration to put an immediate end to the US war of aggression in Indochina."

Congratulating wholeheartedly the Toronto Conference on the success of its work, we think that common action of the peoples and their lawyers is badly needed to combat the danger created by US neo-fascism. If the Indochinese peoples are the direct victims, the American

VIET NAM COURIER

68th Plenary Session of Paris Conference on
Viet Nam (June 4, 1970)

(Continued from page 8)

NIXON'S PHONEY SUCCESSES DENOUNCED

AT the 69th session of the Paris Conference, Mr Nguyen Minh Vy again denounced, on behalf of the delegation of the DRVN, the stubbornness and doubletalk of the Nixon administration which, while talking peace, has never made a sincere attempt to peacefully settle the Viet Nam problem. At present, the US imperialists are scheming not only to prolong their aggressive war in South Viet Nam but to spread it throughout Indochina, aggravating the tension in this area.

The DRVN Delegation spokesman went on: "By seeking a military victory and a position of strength, the Nixon administration is getting bogged deeper down in the Indochina quagmire and will raise the toll to be paid by the American people in human lives and property in this unjust and immoral war already doomed to failure."

The Saigon court martial announced on May 28 that four students' leaders would be brought to trial. Immediately 4,000 students and pupils of three secondary schools in the city of Thanh Hoa staged a march. Facing the savage assaults of the puppet police, the pupils of Cao Thang school from the roof of the school fought back with all their weapons.

On May 19, Thieu threatened his MPs who had shown sympathy with the students. New street demonstrations and the police besieged An Quang Pagoda and dispersed the demonstrators.

In an attempt to soothe the students and people's movement, on May 20 and 21 Thieu released four of the eleven "ring-leaders" detained since last April. But the students were not taken in. They staged a demonstration in front of the US embassy "in protest against the forthcoming visit of Von Sambar, the Foreign Minister of the Phnom Penh government." This was also a formal reminder to the Saigon tyrants of their legitimate demands.

However on the next day, Thieu had two students' leaders, Nguyen Van Thang and Doan Kinh, apprehended on May 23 and Tran Cuong Viem.

In support of the students, country. But above all I remember for long these evenings when the workers sing, these rosy-cheeked children - and these mountaineers around the farm who greet us with broad smiles. More than the acclimatization of the hop and the sound financial management of the enterprise, these merry and radiant faces have strengthened my confidence in the future of my country.

VIET NAM COURIER

(Continued from page 3)

And I came to understand why, when the American planes came to attack the farm - they made repeated intrusions - not only the workers but also the local people's militia fought them back with all their weapons. Back in Hanoi, I still keep a vivid memory of these hills covered with tea-plants, Dutch cows, Turkistan sheep, Czech hops, these pastures and all these landscapes so new to our

or foreign, no far as those funds are derived from US financial aid."

The Americans go further and they put the screws on the Saigon authorities.¹ In addition to the deposits in the special account in the National Bank of Viet Nam, the government of Viet Nam will add 4,680 million from commercial duty and the state will receive from goods imported under that aid.

Moreover the "Viet Nam government will provide such detailed information including access to pertinent records as may be required by US regarding the operations and policies of the National Bank of Viet Nam and Exchange Control Authority."² (Same Agreement, Section 3).

In the end, the screw tightens

which consists in imposing on the

Saigon government the obligation of depositing in the special account

all the customs receipts of the goods imported under "commercial co-operation" (Same Agreement, Section 4), which would be inadmissible and unacceptable for any free and independent state.

To sum up, USOM administrators

on behalf of the US government

the finances of the South Vietnamese "state."

What is the weight of "coun-

Thieu - Ky - Khiem Triumvirate ...

(Continued from page 8)

Thien Khiem, the puppet Premier, and his henchmen in the disposal of the SGA. The answer of the students was given in the SGA Vice-Chairman Doan Van Ton's statement: "We continue to strike and call for the release of all our men still in jail."

Meanwhile, the American Ambassador in Saigon, Ambassador Elsworth Bunker, in a bid to calm the Saigon students' struggle, met with the Nixon administration which, while talking peace, has never made a sincere attempt to peacefully settle the Viet Nam problem. The Nixon administration has done its best to trumpet its failed successes in Cambodia and South Viet Nam.

The DRVN Delegation spokesman went on: "By seeking a military victory and a position of strength, the Nixon administration is getting bogged deeper down in the Indochina quagmire and will raise the toll to be paid by the American people in human lives and property in this unjust and immoral war already doomed to failure."

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VIET NAM COURIER

(Continued from page 3)

VIET NAM COURIER

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VIET NAM COURIER

(Continued from page 3)

VIET NAM COURIER

Saigon newsmen also decided to call a general strike on June 3. Meanwhile thousands of bonus on May 31 started a 48-hour hunger-strike, the first nationwide anti-government demonstration of the Buddhist monk Thich Nhat Hanh. It was directed against Thieu-Khiem's war and repression.

The present political confusion in Saigon is a further proof of the puppet administration's impotence. Yet, owing to its anti-popular and fascist nature, it does not shrink from resorting to violence against the people. However, these great difficulties will not be able to consolidate it, on the contrary they only pour oil on the flame.

PLAF HIT HARD...

(Continued from page 8)

artillery battalions and many hundred companies, platoons and anti-aircraft "pacification" teams wiped out or decimated.

400 aircraft downed or destroyed.

700 military vehicles (including 320 tanks and armoured cars) and hundreds of artillery pieces blasted out of commission.

several thousands of tons of munitions destroyed and millions of litres of fuel burnt.

hundreds of "strategic hamlets" and other forms of concentration camps disappeared.

For these important successes won by the PLAF despite the reinforcement by the enemy of his defense system and ever-increasing numbers of aircraft, it is evident that the South Vietnamese people and armed forces firmly keep the initiative throughout the country and have more powerful punches. The failure of the "pacification" program and Nixon's frenzied "Vietnamization" adventure seems a foregone conclusion.

ARTIFICIAL TERRAIN

(Continued from page 3)

and I came to understand why, when the American planes came to attack the farm - they made repeated intrusions - not only the workers but also the local people's militia fought them back with all their weapons. Back in Hanoi, I still keep a vivid memory of these hills covered with tea-plants, Dutch cows, Turkistan sheep, Czech hops, these pastures and all these landscapes so new to our

VIET NAM COURIER

(Continued from page 3)

VIET NAM COURIER

"economic co-operation" according on April 21 and 23, 1955 stipulated clearly that the help granted was aimed at "affording a direct support to the Vietnamese armed forces" and, in the same spirit, "it was conditioned by the great financial contribution made by the South Viet Nam government to prop up its armed forces... a part of this contribution" may come from the releases effected to the benefit of the Viet Nam government from the counterpart fund..." (underlined by the author). Consequently through the channel of the counterpart fund, the US took upon itself to bear the average 75 per cent of the annual expenditure of the Saigon National Defence budget for the upkeep of the military and para-military forces, a budget which eats up on the average 3 per cent of all the budget annual expenses.

There is no blinking the fact that US aid has made it possible for the Saigon regime to exist, and better still, to survive.

US aid is thus for South Viet Nam not only an "artificial lung" but chiefly or rather a "rope to hang itself."

PLAF HIT HARD AT ENEMY DEFENCE SYSTEM AND "PACIFICATION" PROGRAM

- 38,000 Enemy Troops (8,000 GIs) Put out of Action.
- 400 Planes and Helicopters Downed or Destroyed, 700 Military Vehicles, Hundreds of Ordnance Pieces, Thousands of Tons of Ammunition Wrecked, Millions of Litres of Fuel Burnt.
- Big Gaps in Enemy Coercive Apparatus, Hundreds of "Strategic Hamlets" Dismantled.

FROM the initial reports just released by *Giao Phuong* Press Agency on the May activities of the PLAF and South Viet Nam people, it appears that the enemy continued, just like in April last, to sustain heavy losses on all theaters of operations and in his most sensitive spots: manpower, technical and material war means, "pacification" program.

In the Quang Tri and Tho Thien area (the northernmost provinces in South Viet Nam), the PLAF mounted violent attacks on the sector of Highway No. 9 between Dong Ha and Khe Sanh. Road No. 12, southwest of Hue, and in the "pacified" countryside and enemy rear bases, Hiep Duc included. The PLAF put out of action 7,000 adverse troops including 1,000 GIs, wiped out or decimated a regimental CP, a battalion CP, an infantry battalion, an artillery battalion and dozens of companies. They destroyed 130 military vehicles (nearly 70 tanks and armoured cars), 32 cannons and mortars, and downed or blazed out of commission over one hundred aircraft and craft. The fiercest actions were staged on Tam Lam ("Rockpile"), Hill 241 ("Camp Carroll"), Con Tien, Da Nieu (on Highway No. 1), bases of US Air Mobile Division 101 at My Thuy, Binh Dien and Dong Lam ("Camp Evans"), of puppet Infantry Division 1 at Tu Ho and Mong Ca (a redoubt in the Citadel). The enemy units in the field also took serious examination: puppet Regiment 1 at Chiem Gieng, in the hilly area southwest of Quang Tri, had 1,200 men disabled and 50 aircraft downed or destroyed on the ground.

N Central and Southern Trung Bo, 15,000 enemy soldiers were knocked out of action, a battalion CP, 3 battalions, and over 50 companies, platoons and "pacification" teams written off

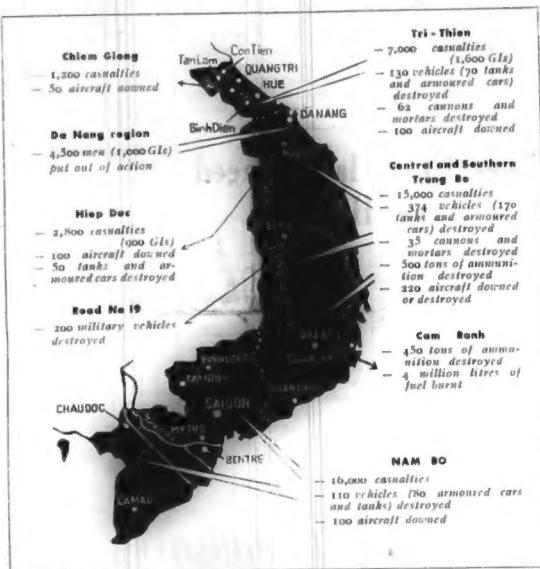
the muster-roll or decimated. The patriotic forces wiped out 374 military vehicles (170 tanks and armoured cars), 35 cannons and mortars and 500 tons of ammunition and grounded or destroyed 200 planes and helicopters.

Between May 1 and 17, in these regions, the PLAF hammered at ten cities and provincial capitals, over twenty district capitals and military sub-sector CPs and about one hundred other military installations such as airfields, ports, depots, vehicle compounds. In the Da Nang area alone, the enemy suffered 4,500 casualties (about one thousand GIs and mercenaries from satellite countries). Important targets in the city itself and suburbs, such as the big airbase, naval base, HQ of puppet First Army Corps, came under fire. Meanwhile, other PLAF units stormed many sub-sector CPs in the area: at Hiep Duc (53 km south of Da Nang), 2,800 enemy troops (over 500 GIs) put out of action, all the three battalions of puppet 5 Regiment 5 wiped out or badly mangled, about one-hundred choppers and planes downed, and some dozen artillery pieces and about fifty tanks and armoured cars destroyed.

Further south, guerrilla warfare gained fresh momentum in the provinces of Binh Dinh, Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa where a great toll was taken of the enemy regional forces on "pacification" roads.

On Beo No. 19 linking the Western High Plateaux to the sea, over 200 enemy military vehicles were lost in a dozen ambushes. Logistic depots were also selective targets of the PLAF. At US Cam Ranh base, 450 tons of ammunition were destroyed and over 4 millions of litres of fuel burnt.

In these areas enemy military training centres were



Thieu-Ky-Khiem Triumvirate Pours Oil on the Flame

THE University and high school students' struggle against the dictatorship of the Thieu-Ky-Khiem clique in South Viet Nam reached its highest peak going on three months and was met in May by the puppets' increased obstinacy and perfidy.

On May 5 the police attacked the students who had occupied the old Cambodian Embassy in protest against the Lon Nol-Suk Matak gang's massacres of Vietnamese residents in Cam-

bodia, and arrested sixty of them. At the same time the puppet authorities held anti-democratic and public meetings by virtue of the 10/68 fascist law, closed down all schools in Saigon and extended the curfew.

Nevertheless on May 6 and 7 the students continued to take to the streets. On the evening of May 7, pro-moderate Nguyen Van Thanh, Chairman and Secretary General of the Students' General Association (SGA), according to Saigon press.

On May 9, the cops manhandled the students taking part in the sit-in before the Education Ministry and apprehended 76. The protesters far from being intimidated stepped up their action.

(Continued page 7)